

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 8AM

Board Members Present: Juanita Hill, Jerrald Pfabe, Bob Dahms, and Stephanie Croston
Absent: Nancy Lamberty
Also: Becky Baker, Library Director

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting the notice of such meeting, with the agenda thereon, in the following places: City Hall, Seward Municipal Building, and the Seward Memorial Library. Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Library Board. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1. CALL TO ORDER & RECOGNITION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT AVAILABILITY

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Juanita Hill, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Programs:

The summer kickoff street party was very successful. Staff didn't know what to expect since it was the first big event since the pandemic started, but an estimated 200 children plus family members attended. Many signed up for summer programs that day. The summer reading club began the following Monday, May 24, and so far all seems to be going well with that also. The adult summer reading club begins this Saturday, competing with York. Story Times began this week. This year, instead of signing up for a session, families sign their preschoolers up for individual days. Staff has limited the number of attendees to ten for better social distancing, so individual day sign-ups can automatically be monitored. Pre-3 will begin tomorrow morning and meet each Thursday for four weeks. This afternoon is the first major program for families; Wildlife Encounters from Gretna will be here at 1:00. Other major programs this month include Raptor Recovery next week, magician Keith West the following week, and an outreach program from the Henry Doorly Zoo concludes our summer series. Monday movies for children begin next week and go through July as does the summer reading club. Throughout July staff will host two escape rooms for different ages.

This month's book group choices:

Midday Mysteries: *The Man from Beijing* by Henning Mankell

Best of NYT: *Prairie Forge* by James J. Kimble

Random Reads: *Love and other impossible pursuits* by Ayelet Waldman

The Story Walk is up and running with the first book in place. A lot was learned during the initial page installation so future books will be able to be placed more smoothly.

Operations:

Personnel: Pam Walz will retire on June 11. A party for her is planned for that day at the band shell from 2:00-4:00. Please plan to attend if you can. The job description for the Assistant Library Director is being reworded slightly to place more emphasis on technology assistance. This change will need to be approved by the City Council at their June 15 meeting, and then advertising for a replacement can begin. The library janitor is out for an extended medical event so Campbell Cleaning has been filling in, coming twice a week to clean bathrooms and to do a little vacuuming for us.

HVAC: All repairs are now completed, and appropriate bills have been turned into the insurance company.

Weeding: Baker has started to weed the collection and hopes to finish around mid-June. Not much weeding took place last year since the 4th of July book sale didn't take place, so there is plenty to do.

Budget: Baker met with City Administrator Butcher and City Treasurer Wolf to develop the library's budget request for next fiscal year. It seemed to be a smooth process, and hopefully there won't be many changes made to our numbers during the next steps.

Statistics:

Circulation for May was up 1,486 from last year (we were closed to the public the entire month last year) and was up 557 from last month. Overdrive numbers for May were not yet available.

Total collection now numbers 57,918.

Attendance for May was up from last year since we were closed to the public last year and up from last month by 304, even though we were closed four more days than last month.

Computer use was up from last year, like attendance. It was up 8 from last month. Wireless use was up 7,212 from last year and up 907 from last month.

Window use was down 772 from last year and down 54 from last month.

3. ANNUAL POLICY REVIEW – Collection and Internet Policy

After review of both policies, no changes were made. Baker will update the footer of each to indicate the date of review.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

Pfabe moved to approve the consent items. Dahms seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Croston, Dahms and Hill. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Lamberty.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Croston, Secretary